



We Are Back in Action

We are very happy to release this new issue of **ukulele player**.

For those of you who used to anxiously await each new issue of **ukulele player** magazine, we are sorry that it took so long to release any new issues.

I released the first issue December 3, 2008 and spent an exorbitant amount of time doing all the layout and design work, taking pictures of all the musical instruments that were reviewed, not to mention the CD covers for all of those reviews. I pulled many all-nighters in the creation of each issue.

When health issues began to plague me, I had to take a break until things returned to normal.

The last issue was released January 2014 –after which we tried putting together a WordPress blog with past articles and new content. Unfortunately, with a staff of volunteer writers to assist me, things did not work out. I had one article from my dear friend Jeremy dePrisco, but everyone was terribly busy and the new site just left me

with even more work than before.

I'd like to thank those who have contributed to the efforts in past time. I mentioned my friend Jeremy dePrisco already. In addition to Jeremy, I had help from Steve Boisen and Austin Kaiser contributed several great stories and interviews. Marion Koleski did an article and a video for me and Paul Okami from KoAloha Ukulele contributed in the question and answer column on ukulele construction.

Louis Wu and Stephanie Snell from Ohana Ukulele made invaluable contributions sending me instruments for review. Mike Upton and Rick Carlson from Kala Ukes supplied instruments to give away for a number of issues. Tom Ferrone from USMusic provided ukuleles for review.

I'd like to thank the luthiers who sent instruments to review and performers who sent CDs for review. I want to thank all of the performing artists and everyone who agreed to be interviewed for the magazine– including the late Bill Tapia.

This issue brings three ukulele reviews. We have a KoAlana Tenor ukulele, thanks to our friend, Paul Okami. We have an Alvarez concert uke and an Ohana SK-38 soprano uke.

Our Feature artist is Ronin Wong, an amazing talent. He's an actor, a musician, an avid role-playing gamer, and an incredibly interesting fellow.

My goal is to start producing issues at regular interval. There won't be as many as we had in the beginning, but, I hope to produce one per quarter, perhaps six a year. I still work a full-time job, write books, and other articles, too (it's a living). Stay tuned... :o)

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Alvarez AU70C Ukulele

I bought a Taylor guitar from my local Guitar Center and received a rather large store credit coupon as a bonus.

With the \$160 store credit, I decided to order an Alvarez ukulele to give one a test drive.

Usually, when a company sends me an instrument to review it is almost guaranteed that it will be the cream of the crop. But buying a ukulele without anyone knowing that I publish ukulele player means that I will receive an instrument that was in their inventory, not one that someone hand picked for the article.

A lot of guitar makers have started producing ukuleles in recent years just to grab their little share of the uke market before their popularity once again diminishes. Brands like Fender, Ibanez, Gretsch, and Mitchell have entered the market with low-priced ukuleles made in China or Indonesia. Other brands, like Eastman and Recording King have entered the mid-priced to upper-middle priced market. Eastman's prices approach Martin ukuleles for similar quality.

Alvarez entered the market about a year ago. They have

ramped up production and now have several models in the low-end price category.

I had no pre-conceived notions about the AU70C when I ordered it. All I knew was that it appeared to be an attractive instrument from what I could see on Guitar Center's website. I ordered it online rather than purchasing it in my local store.

The ukulele arrived in a typical instrument carton packed inside a large shipping box. It was well protected.

The instrument looked beautiful. The solid spruce top had nice tight grain and at first glance I saw no defects.

I carefully looked over the body and found one little shiny spot on the back. I buffed the entire back with "0000" steel wool to remove the shiny spot which most likely was the result of the uke sliding back and forth in the carton. It was packed in polystyrene, but, that would not prevent this sort of minor blemish if the ukulele rattled around a lot.

Aside from the shiny spot that I buffed out, the fit and finish of the ukulele was very good. The nut was perfectly cut, but the

saddle was a bit tall. I filed down the bottom of the saddle to lower the action a bit.

I felt that the sound was too harsh on this ukulele, but, that was due to the choice of strings, not the instrument itself. I confirmed my suspicion by restringing it with Martin fluorocarbon strings. The difference in tone was night and day. This ukulele sounds much better than I expected.



Looking over the neck of the uke I found that the frets were flawlessly dressed. After I lowered the action a bit I started playing the uke a bit and found that there were no sharp fret ends, there were no buzzing strings, and the intonation was spot on.

I really liked the headstock logo. The inlay was perfect. The same holds true for the binding on the top of the body. The binding is a herringbone pattern and really accents the spruce top nicely. The rosette is pearloid and appears to be an inlay, not a decal.

The tuners are high-quality enclosed-gear machines and hold very well. The instrument is easy to tune and it stays in tune really once the strings settle down.

The saddle is not compensated. At \$149 dollars, I didn't think it would be. What surprised me, though, was how nice the intonation was for a straight saddle.

Here are the instrument specs:

Style: Concert
Top: Solid A+ Sitka spruce
Bracing: Traditional Fan
Back & Sides: Mahogany
Binding: Herringbone
Finish: Semi-Gloss
Scale: 14.8"
Neck: Mahogany
Fingerboard: Rosewood
Number of frets: 19
Bridge: Rosewood
Nut & Saddle: Real Bone
Nut width: 35 mm
Tuner: Chrome
Strings: Aquila Nylgut
Case: Sold separately

When the manufacturer calls this "A+" quality Sitka spruce, they are not exaggerating. The grain is straight as an arrow and very tight. The result is plenty of volume. That makes this instrument a good choice for a low-cost gigging ukulele.

One major flaw in most low-end guitar brand ukuleles is that they are over-built. That is NOT the case with this instrument. The braces are more in line with

what you'll find with Ohana. In fact, looking inside the sound hole, I don't see messy glue or any sloppiness whatsoever. That really impresses me.

The label reads "Designed in the USA crafted in China."

I suspect that wherever these ukuleles are made, it is one of the better factories. Their quality control must be first-rate (that or I just received a perfect sample). As I mentioned earlier, I gave no indication whatsoever that I publish *ukulele player* and I ordered from Guitar Center, not Alvarez directly.

If this is what we can expect from Alvarez, then I am excited. Based on what I see here, I can give this ukulele a big thumbs up and I strongly urge anyone looking for a low-end uke with high-quality and good performance, to take a look at what Alvarez has in its line-up. I'd like to test drive their other models and see whether or not they are the same quality. If so, I hope they keep it up.





Ohana SK-38

Quite some time ago we ran a review of this same model ukulele, but that was based on the prototype, not the shipping model. This time around we are reviewing the shipping model.

The Ohana SK-38 is inspired by the vintage Martin #2 ukulele. It is made to the Martin spec and if not for the Ohana logo, the average player might not know the difference.

To be realistic, the Martin sounds better for two reasons, the first is because a newly built ukulele will not match the tone of a quality vintage instrument. The second reason is that the Martin soundboard is actually thinner than the Ohana. I'd imagine that it comes down to cost and durability. A little thicker soundboard is easier to make and will be a bit more durable than what we have come to expect from Martin vintage ukuleles.

Ohana picked premium quality mahogany for the construction of the SK-38. The body features all solid-wood construction, a solid mahogany neck, a solid mahogany headstock, a bone nut and saddle, a rosewood bridge and fretboard.

The Gotoh friction tuners hold

well, but, you will have to tighten them on occasion as many of you know.

If you are not familiar with Martin style of bridges, you need to knot the end of your strings when putting them on the uke. I double knot all but the thickest string and I have not experienced any slippage.

Playing the SK-38, the first thing that hit me was that Aquila Nylguts are not the string I would want on this uke. I swapped them out for Martin fluorocarbons (M600). What a difference that made. The uke sounded much sweeter after the string change.

Nylguts are great on cheaper ukuleles because they increase the volume on laminated topped instruments, but this ukulele is so well made that those heavy strings are too much for it. If I were Ohana, I'd put fluorocarbon strings on their higher-priced instruments. The tonal enhancement is worth the extra few cents in the cost of better strings.

Looking over the fit and finish of the shipping model, it is clear to me that Ohana has tried to make this instrument look vintage straight off the assembly



line. They did a great job with that.

There are no fillers used in the body of this uke, so, it has some little imperfections in the surface. That was done by design and is meant to enhance the vintage look of the instrument. It is not a defect. In was deliberate, so, there is no cause for alarm.

Looking inside the instrument, I see that its bracing is light and the construction appears neat. I did not see excess glue or any rough edges on braces.

The binding is yellow to mimic the look of age. The stain used on this instrument is also darker than the SK-35 and other solid mahogany Ohana ukes. Again, that was done to give it a vintage look.

The bone nut and saddle give the SK-38 excellent sustain. Paired with either the Aquila strings or the Martins, I did not detect any buzzing.

The frets are perfectly dressed and the rosewood fretboard and bridge were nicely finished.

Fit and finish are perfect. The instrument is lighter than most soprano ukes due to the quality of the wood, the all solid construction, the friction tuners, and the thinner soundboard. It all makes for a great instrument

to play if you want to record with a microphone or gig using a mic rather than plugging into the mixer.

Stephanie from Ohana sent me this ukulele in the case pictured below. It's really a great match for the instrument. If I bought one of these I'd either opt for the case pictured here or the Ohana vintage tweed we had in our review of the CK-28 (Nunes reproduction model).

You don't want to carry a uke of this quality in a gig bag. Get the hardshell case to keep this one safe from harm.

I really love the balance of this ukulele. I prefer geared tuners, to be honest, but on this uke, I would not want to use them. They would make it top-heavy. Friction tuners are a must.

If I could opt for Pegheds tuners, I would gladly pay a bit more for the planetary gearing and the ease of tuning. Maybe that's

the guitar player in me. I've played ukulele since the 1960s and guitar within a year afterward. I have always found geared tuners easier to use.

Since the majority of ukulele players today started playing guitar first, I know that my preference is not unique.

I have played so many different ukuleles that I could never list them all. I've played vintage ukes, luthier-made ukes, factory ukes, and totally custom-built ukes. Quality varies even with the finest makers.

Louis Wu (Ohana Ukes) once told me that his company places the highest emphasis on sonic quality. It is the sound of the instrument that is their biggest concern. Over the years, the construction has gotten better. The number of different instruments has grown. Production has increased. The over-all quality just keeps getting better. This one is no exception.





Ronin Wong

There are lots of talented people in the world of ukulele. One of the most talented, and most interesting in my estimation, is Ronin Wong.

Ronin came into this world as "Tom Wong" and later took the name "Ronin" Wong. He is of Chinese descent, but, the name Ronin is Japanese.

To better understand this multi-talented musician, actor, teacher, and all-around fascinating fellow, let's look at the name Ronin.

In Japanese history, a ronin, (pronounced with a long "o" ro-noon in Japanese) is a Samurai who serves no master. This sometimes happened as the result of a daimyo (Samurai Lord) being killed in battle; but, it was possible that a samurai could break ties with his Lord and go separate ways over some dispute. Some that followed that path joined the ranks of Ninja. Others became rogues or mercenaries for hire.

Among ronin, however, some gained fame as serving the good of common people and defending them from abusive Lords who had become dictatorial and self-serving.

In the case of Ronin Wong, I suspect that it is more a description of someone who wants to be a free agent, good by nature, but someone who does not want to be pigeon-holed into a particular mold, genre, or classification in any pursuit, creative or otherwise.

If I am right, I would say, this is Ronin Wong, free agent. He is the Bard, the story-teller, the actor, the musician, the composer, the teacher, the world-traveler, the renaissance man.

For almost two decades Ronin was acting in movies and television. His list of acting credits appears at the end of this article. He has been away from the business for a while, but, he is now looking to get back into it and you'll read more about that in the interview that follows.

Music is similar to acting in many respects. The musical performer takes on a stage persona, of sorts. Some performers hide behind a stage personality, but others just get up there and sing or play music. In a way, the musician becomes an actor. There are definitely similarities.

MGM Studios used to produce musicals that featured actors who could sing and dance. If you want a good example, go on the Internet and search for "Singing In the Rain" with Gene Kelly, Donald O'Conner, and Debbie Reynolds and you'll understand what I am saying. A good many movie stars of that generation had both musical talent and acting skills.

Some actors have made the transition to music and some singers and musicians have become accomplished actors. Johnny Depp is a perfect example.

There's more to life than music and acting. So, aside from his life on the stage, who is this man, Ronin Wong?

When Ronin is not acting or playing music, he likes to dig up dinosaur bones and other fossil remains. He loves science and learning. He loves museums. He loves philosophy. He's a thinker.

When it comes to indoor recreation, Ronin loves role playing games (like Dungeons and Dragons). He also has a fondness for hot cocoa and a passion for food. Doubtless, if this were Middle Earth, we could add the brewing of ale and pipeweed to that list. :o)

By the time you are done reading this interview and subsequent list of movie credits, I hope you'll know a lot more about Ronin and look forward to seeing what lies ahead in both his acting and musical career. Sit back and enjoy...

Q. I know from the videos you've posted over the years that you play multiple musical instruments. How many different instruments do you play and what are they?

A. Let's see. I play the piano, guitar (acoustic and electric), bass, and ukulele well enough to play in professional settings. There are a number of other instruments I dabble in... harmonica, drums, banjo, and mandolin. I'm going to be working more with the drums this year. I guess that's eight instruments.

Q. How long have you been playing ukulele?

A. I started playing more than ten years ago, but I didn't really play a lot until 2010. That was when I got my first gigs on the ukulele.

Q. What inspired you to start playing ukulele?

A. My friend, Ralph Shaw, runs the Vancouver Ukulele Circle, which gathers once a month. He invited me to visit it. At first, I brought my guitar to accompany, and provide background for the uke players. Eventually, I got curious about what it would be like to play with the circle, so I got a little Mahalo soprano and joined in.

Q. How many ukes do you own? Do you have a favorite?

A. How many? Ha ha. I'll have to count. Ten. Two sopranos, two concertos, three tenors, a baritone, a banjo-uke, and a

Risa uke stick. I also have an 8-string on loan from a friend. My favourite two are the acacia wood tenors: Kala and Cloud Music. I like to keep one tuned to Low G and the other one to normal re-entrant tuning.

Q. You teach music. What instruments do you teach?

A. I teach the piano, the guitar, and the ukulele. I teach singing and composition as well.

Q. You are a gigging musician. How long have you played on stage?

A. Well, it's been on and off for about thirty years. Although for some of that time, I wasn't that active. I went through a period of a few years recently where I gigged more than before.

Q. How many bands have you been in (as a member)?

A. A lot of bands I was in were only temporary, for a limited run of events. In terms of a more long-term commitment, I've only been in two bands.

Q. You have played as a guest musician with a lot of bands. What groups have you played with as a guest musician?

A. Oh, there's been a lot of times where it was just a temporary set-up. For example, I've played with bands that were accompanying a stage show. Sometimes, we didn't have a name, at least not one I remember. I did play recently for a local group, the Stone Poets once and that was a fun

and memorable gig. I played keyboard on that: they were challenging, well-crafted songs.

Q. Do you have any interest in playing for one of the ukulele festivals around Canada, the USA, or abroad?

A. Yes, I am curious about it. I've made some enquiries but haven't really pushed for it. It depends on what else happens with music and film. It's something I might pursue in the future.

Q. How did you get into acting?

A. It was a bit of an accident, actually. I was in between jobs and I signed up with an extras agency to be a movie and TV extra. I was curious about the whole thing. My extras agency at the time wanted to start representing actors as well. They auditioned some of their people. I had taken a theatre course and a film course for fun, when I was at school, so they gave me a shot. On the basis of that, they started sending me out for auditions. On my third audition out, I got a part on a TV pilot. The pilot didn't get picked up but that job effectively started my career.

Q. You've been on a lengthy hiatus from the acting business and have recently announced your intent to get back into it. Was there some epiphany moment that inspired this sudden interest in acting again?

A. I was at a film festival a few months ago. It struck me how much I felt at home. I went to

other events as well just to see old friends again, and more and more I realized that part of me belonged there. There were good reasons I needed to get away before, but now it's different. For better or for worse, I know now that part of me belongs in film and TV. I need to go back.

Q. Do you see a link between acting and music?

A. Hmm... well, they're both performing arts. To do it well, you have to put a part of your true self into it. Even if you take on a persona, and adopt some other manner of being, part of your soul must be in it. Otherwise, it's lifeless and pointless. I think they both require a surprising amount of skill, even though native talent can count for a lot.

Q. There have been some people that crossed over from acting to music or music to acting and were successful with both. Johnny Depp is one excellent example. Billy Bob Thornton is another. How do you feel about the melding of the two? Do you want to remain involved with both?

A. For now, I want to remain involved with both. Part of me belongs in one place and part of me belongs in the other. We'll see how this works out. I like to do a lot of things outside the professions as well and this had been one of my reasons to take a break from acting so I'd have time to do those things. I hope I can manage my time and my emotions better than I was able

to before.

Q. Do you have any long-term goals as an actor and a musician that you'd like to share with the readers?

A. —that I'm comfortable sharing? Well, I can share this much. My experience as a teacher has changed how I view things. For myself, I've set up my work as part of a course. There are different objectives and levels in each course. So, in music the "courses" I'm taking are: Singing, Acoustic Guitar, Electric Guitar, Piano, Ukulele, Bass, Drums, Songwriting and Composition, and Music Production. For Film and TV, the courses are Acting, Writing, and Film and TV Production. At some point, I'll narrow it down. For instance, I'll probably only go so far with Bass and Drums, but I'd like to develop Songwriting and Composition as far as it will take me.

The "courses" include a knowledge component, skill acquisition, and work experiences.

Q. Have you recorded any albums in the past?

A. In the 90s, I recorded two. They were both instrumental efforts where I used a KORG PRO X workstation, which was leading technology at the time. "Inspirations By Ronin" and "A Comet's Tale." They are both available on iTunes®. Some of the songs are fully orchestrated while others are more sparse. Inspirations has twelve songs and is informed by the 12-step

program for recovery from addictions. A Comet's Tale is a musical adventure that depicts the path of a comet orbiting the sun in a long elliptical orbit. It passes by each planet in the solar system. There's a song for each planet and one for the sun. The last piece is a 17 minute reprise of the all the songs, in reverse order.

Q. Do you plan to do any recording in the future?

A. Yes, I'd like to. I want to do more recordings but I'll be coming from a different perspective. I want to work more with live instruments. That's part of the reason I'm learning the drums. I wanted to record the whole thing myself. We'll see how it goes.

Q. Let's turn to acting. You've played a lot of roles in movies and television. What do you think was your best work?

A. Hmm. I liked what I did in "The Secret of Giving". That was a made for TV movie starring Reba McEntire. The part could have been a bit stereotypical but I had to breathe life into it, to make it real. It was one of the main supporting roles in the movie.

Q. Are there any roles you wished you had not taken after the fact?

A. Yes, there was one role for a Hong Kong TV series I didn't care for. The role itself was fine but people were treated like crap on that set. We did crazy things like we shot a driving

scene without blocking off traffic. It wasn't really a full on car chase but still, it was kind of dangerous just to shoot that and use real traffic as background. They cut corners like that.

Q. Of all the people you've worked with as an actor, do you have a favorite?

A. I enjoyed working with Reba a lot. Also, Thomas Ian Griffith and Ronny Cox were on the same show and it was great to be around them. Some of the others that come to mind as being great to work with are Morgan Freeman, Joe Mantegna, and Ethan Hawke.

Q. Do you have any funny stories you can share from the movie set or sound stage?

A. It was on the Secret of Giving. We were waiting around for the film crew to change to a different set-up. For fun, I told Reba an incredibly dirty joke. I had asked her if it was okay. She said she could take it. It's a bad one and I'm not sure I can share it here. When I was done, she broke into a large smile and started to laugh hysterically. It was one of those deep but quiet laughs that just kept going. I think it was funnier because my character was supposed to be this very friendly and polite guy, who would probably never tell a joke like that.

Q. How about stories from musical performances?

A. I was once performing "Oh

Donna" by Ritchie Valens with a band. A man in his 70s walked right up on to the stage and started talking to me. He had always loved that song and he named his daughter "Donna" It was bizarre. He was having this whole conversation with me while I kept singing. I didn't mind it. I was surprised at how much this connected with him.

Q. As an actor, what role would you really love to have? What genre do you enjoy the most?

A. Things have changed. When I was younger, I loved playing villains, especially ones that seemed like nice people at first. Now, I don't know. I would just like to be in either a drama or a comedy, and have some meaningful scenes. I'm not too specific. I just want to get back into making shows again.

Q. Personally, I'd love to see you play an Indiana Jones like archaeologist adventurer. I know you love paleontology and archaeology. Would you love to portray a role in a field that you enjoy in your own private life? Sort of mixing passion with work.

A. Yeah, that would be a lot of fun. One of your jobs as an actor is to make the activity you're supposed to be doing seem real. It's a lot more fun and it's a richer performance if the actor is very informed about what they're portraying. One of my big hobbies is role-playing games. I'd love to play a scene where I was playing dungeons and dragons, or some other game like that.

Q. If you could pick any actor from Hollywood history with which to co-star, who would you pick?

A. There are so many. I'd be curious to work with Hedy Lamar just to see if I could keep my focus and remember my lines when looking at someone that beautiful. I'd also love to act opposite Humphrey Bogart and Claude Rains. And then, there's Bruce Lee. It would be amazing just to be in his presence.

(Note: Hedy Lamar was actually a brilliant lady. She had a genius IQ, too).

Q. Let's ask the same question, but, rather than picking an actor, make it a director. Do you have a favorite with whom you'd love to work?

A. Preston Sturges: his screwball comedies are some of my favourite movies. I don't know if some of it was improvised but there seems to be an improvisatory character to it. At the same time, there's fabulous dialogue and thorough depth of character. Despite the ridiculousness of the situations, there's a deep grounding in reality. It would be sheer heaven to work with a director/writer like that.

Q. Assuming that everything works out and you are successful beyond your wildest dreams, would you like to try your hand at directing a major motion picture?

A. Absolutely! I'd do it right now if someone would let me.



Clockwise from top left: Ronin Wong promotional shot. Ronin & Marianne Wong perform at a local outdoor event.

Images from the acting days: Ronin with George Takei (from Star Trek fame), Ronin with Reba McEntire...

The Band on stage.





RONIN WONG

ACTOR, MUSICIAN, COMPOSER

RENAISSANCE MAN

Check out Ronin's list of acting credits on the following page.

2006 Four Extraordinary Women (TV Movie)

character: Chemo doctor

2005 Live Feed –character: Waiter #2

2003 When Jesse Was Born –character: Charles Cho

2003 Da Vinci's Inquest (TV Series)

episode: Send in the Clowns –character: Pat Wei

2002 Critical Assembly (TV Movie) –character: Delivery Man

2001 Walking Shadow (TV Movie) –character: Lonnie Wu

The Outer Limits (TV Series)

Episode: The Surrogate (2001) –character: Dr. Chan

Episode: Music of the Spheres (1997) –character: Doctor #1

2001 Along Came a Spider –character: Medical Examiner

Cold Squad (TV Series)

episode: Loose Ends: Part 1 (2001) –Henry Cheng

episode: Loose Ends: Part 2 (2001) –Henry Cheng

episode: Trust (2000) –Henry Cheng

2000 Island of Shadows: D'Arcy Island Leper Colony, 1891-1924

(TV Movie documentary) –character: Chiu You

2000 Romeo Must Die (Jet Li movie)

New Prisoner

2000 The Spring (TV Movie) –character: Mayor Watanabe

1999 Secret of Giving (TV Movie) –character: Wong

1998 Millennium (TV Series)

episode: Siren (1998) ... Interpreter

1993 Young Offenders

character: Song-Gai

Composer (1 credit)

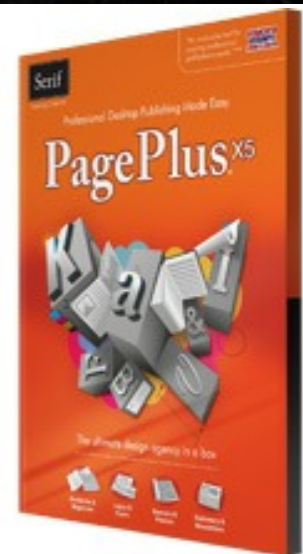
2011 DiVanCity: The Documentary (Short)

Miscellaneous Crew (1 credit)

1995 Crying Freeman

character: stand-in

2014 Madness (Short film) –special thanks credit



ukulele player is made using
Serif Page Plus X5



God Loves Tiny Tim

Spats White, long-time friend of Tiny Tim and consummate artist and entertainer is taking his one-man show, "God Loves Tiny Tim" on the road. Tour dates and engagements have not yet been released, but, as soon as we know the particulars, we'll share it with the world.

Spats and Tiny performed together. I am not sure just how long they were friends, how they met, and the story behind the production, but, I'll be asking

Spats for an interview and we'll share the story with our readers.

God Loves Tiny Tim met with stellar reviews in New York City. It's sure to be a hit across America.

We're looking forward to sharing more information as it comes to us. Meanwhile, stay tuned and keep your eyes and ears open. This is one production you won't want to miss. You can find Spats on Facebook.

"SPATS WHITE SUCCEEDS IN NOT ONLY BRINGING TINY TIM TO LIFE BUT MAKING YOU FORGET HE DIED!"
The New Yorker

"SPATS WHITE CHANNELS TINY TIM!
Often strange and always fascinating...
as compelling as it is unusual!"
nytheatre.com

"A TOUR DE FORCE PERFORMANCE!
Mr. White entrained the audience!
Superbly written and performed."
Five Market Music



GOD LOVES Tiny Tim

A ONE MAN ODYSSEY
BY & WITH
SPATS WHITE

www.spatswhite.com

www.spatswhite.com

More information coming soon.



Greetings from Ohana Ukuleles. We offer hand-crafted ukuleles in a variety of models and price points. From Soprano to Baritone sized, made from quality woods including mahogany and selected koa from Hawaii. From traditional styles to vintage models, we have a unique product line for those searching for something exciting and original. Call us or check our web site for more info!

Ohana Ukuleles

626.922.2848 • www.ohana-music.com

Music, It's All About Passion

I was very fortunate to have grown up in a musical family. My mother was a songwriter with a Nashville contract. My father's family used to get together and sing old Irving Berlin songs and other "standards" whenever the family got together– which was pretty often.

Music was all around me and I always considered it the highest form of expression.

Want to say "I Love You"? Say it with song. Feeling sad? Sing about it. Feeling silly, there's a song for that, too.

Jazz, blues, rock and foll... whatever the mood and whatever the message you wish to convey, there's a song that's right for the occasion. Just sing it with passion– because, in the end, music is all about passion. You should not have one without the other.



Got Uke?



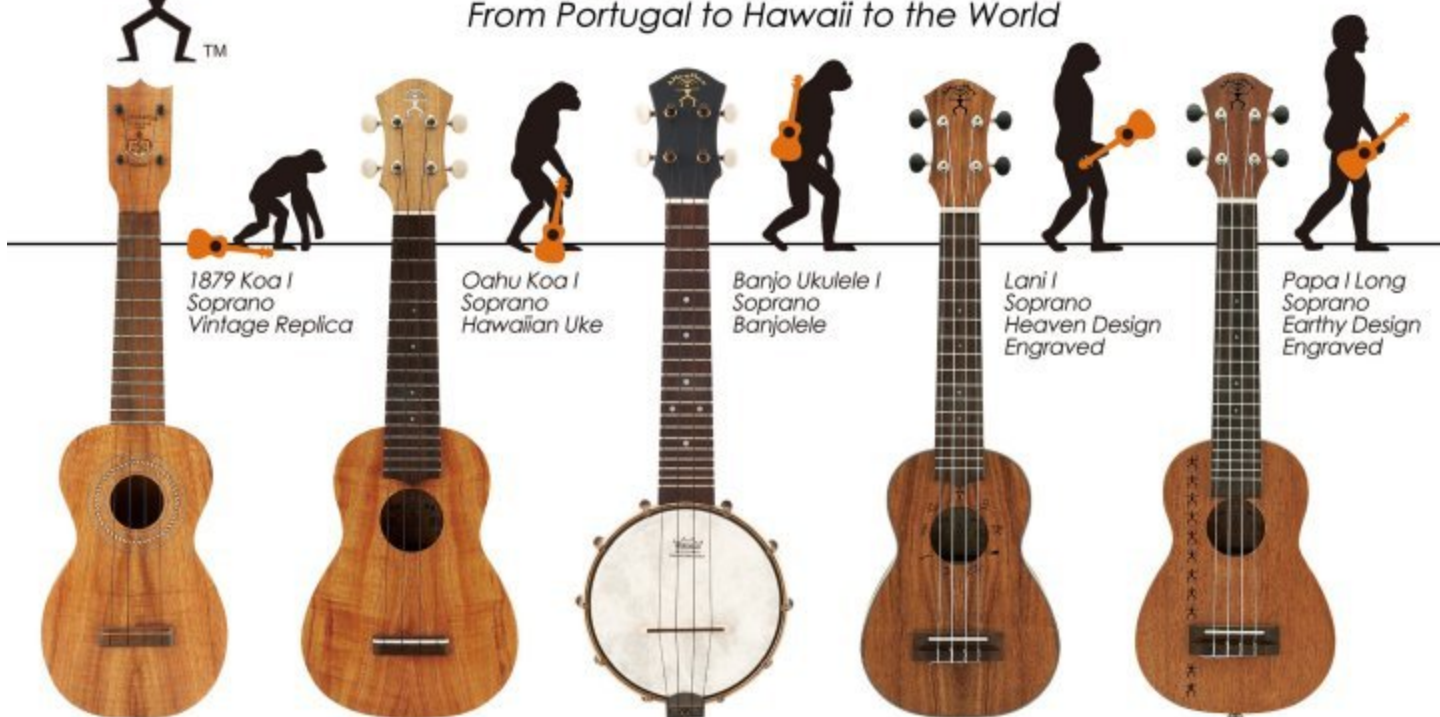
You can find Kala Ukuleles at www.ukeladymusic.com





Evolution of Ukulele

From Portugal to Hawaii to the World



http://www.anuenue-uke.com/html_version/#frame_index



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<http://www.ukulelecosmos.com> - excitement, music, lively discussion, and a whole lot more...



<http://mainlandukes.com/>

A Part of the American Landscape



KOALANA TENOR UKULELE

I received a package from KoAloha Ukulele. Paul Okami sent me a couple of shirts and a "little something" along with them. That little something turned out to be a ukulele.

I opened the box not knowing exactly what instrument was inside. It was obviously a tenor uke from the size of the carton, but what uke? Lying within was a brand new KoAlana tenor.

First, there are not many of these ukuleles available and I am grateful that I have the chance to write a review on this instrument. Second, it is an imported ukulele with laminated construction and a lot of care went into it.

The body construction is laminated Mahoni (Indonesian mahogany-like wood). It is more like genuine mahogany than African sapele in that it does not have that pronounced striped pattern you see on a lot of so-called mahogany instruments.

Laminated bodies are often dead sounding, but that is not the case with KoAlana ukes. The body, in fact, is very lightweight for a laminated instrument. It is durable, but it still produces sweet tone and plenty of volume. It is not as loud as a

solid wood ukulele, but it produces more than enough volume to put on a lively performance for any gigging musician.

Having been a working musician playing with bands and a solo artist, I can tell you from experience that laminated instruments can be beneficial when you are on the road, especially playing outdoor gigs at high elevation. I have played almost as many outdoor gigs as I have indoors.

When the evening chill finally arrives, it is hard to play without constantly tuning an acoustic guitar or ukulele.

When I was gigging regularly I played laminated instruments for their dimensional stability. It meant that I could spend more time playing music and less time tuning. With guitar, my instrument of choice was an Ovation six string with its laminated top and round lyrachord back. In fact, Ovation guitars sounded so nice plugged into an acoustic amp or directly into a PA system, lots of artists gigged with them.

The KoAlana tenor ukulele is the perfect solution to playing outdoor festivals in Autumn



weather or at higher elevations. You will enjoy good volume and sweet tone without tuning problems or worrying about your instrument splitting from that crisp, dry air.

The KoAlana tenor has enough volume to mic without standing as stiff as Al Gore in order to be heard. Backing up a couple inches from the mic won't make much difference.

The neck of this ukulele is solid wood. The fretboard looks like rosewood and so does the bridge. The nut and saddle appear to be synthetic, but they provide plenty of sustain.

The uke comes equipped with Grover tuners that hold really well. They make the instrument a joy to tune and they look good, too.

The headstock is that classic KoAloha crown shape and has a KoAloha-like logo on it. The

headstock does not have a faceplate on it. It is solid wood, just like the neck.

The tenor that Paul Okami sent me as excellent intonation and the frets are beautifully dressed. There are no odd buzzes anywhere on the neck. The action is smooth from one end to the other.

I did lower the action a bit by filing down the saddle from the bottom with a Dremel tool and a flat file. The action was not exceedingly high, but it was higher than the setup that Papa KoAloha or Paul would typically do before they ship out a regular KoAloha ukulele to a customer. I can understand that given that these imported instruments are coming from the other side of the world and a setup at the dealer will often be done to suit the customer's taste.

There are only four pearloid dots on the fretboard to give the player some indication of where

they are on the neck of the ukulele. They are placed on the fifth, seventh, tenth, and twelfth frets (see the picture below).

The sound hole is shaped just like standard KoAloha ukuleles—a shape I have come to love over the years.

Inside the body of KoAlana ukes, you will not find the KoAloha unibrace. These ukes are made with standard ladder bracing, like every other imported uke. Looking inside, though, there is a marked difference. I see no excess glue around braces or the neck block. It is obvious that a lot of care went into producing these instruments.

The fit and finish of the body is perfect. Every seam is flawless. The neck heel is evenly shaped and the neck joint is perfect, just like the body construction.

I like the wood grain on the body. It is longitudinal and picturesque. Some Asian

factories don't worry about wood grain that is at an oblique angle, but, I've never liked that. I prefer that they grain run the length of the body straight and true.

My over all impression of this KoAlana tenor ukulele is very good. The instrument looks great. It has plenty of volume. It is made with quality materials and was assembled with care. This is not a cheap instrument. It is economical. It is made of high-quality laminate, but, I don't get the impression that corners were cut in its manufacture.

Laminated instruments are not necessarily cheap. Alvarez Yairi guitars come to mind when I say that. The big difference between this instrument and top-line KoAloha ukuleles is that this line is laminated wood, the top-shelf ukes are solid wood and made in Hawaii. If you want an affordable player, the KoAlana ukes will fit the bill nicely. Great uke, nice price.





Tiki Cowboys - Island Dreams

I received a CD in the mail a while back. Eric Behrenfeld of the "Tiki Cowboys" sent me a copy of "Island Dream" for review. Since this is the first issue being released since my time away, I owe it to Eric to include it in this issue.

Here is the song line-up:

1. Exotiki
2. On My Island
3. Surf
4. Cold Water River
5. Go Hobo
6. Fifty Degrees In January
7. Blue Tiki
8. Zombie Surf
9. Tiki Grandioso
10. Beach Floyd

The CD starts with a Middle Eastern flavored introduction. This track is perfectly named. There is a resonance in this that is mystical and has lots of overtones. There is almost a James Bond flavor to the tune about halfway through.

"On My Island" has a Doors-like vibe to it. I can hear Morrison singing those lyrics. There is a lot of reverb in the mix, too. That adds to the Doors groove. I have to wonder if Eric was influenced by Morrison.

"Surf" has a cool little percussion

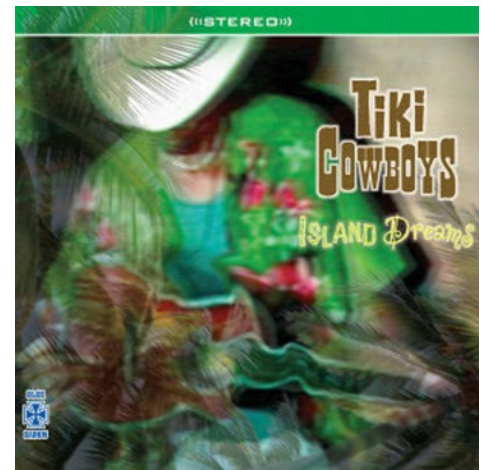
track in it. Suddenly the song takes on a Bobby McFarren sort of Reggae rhythm and the understated vocal track adds to that feel. I wish the vocal mix stood out more. It is somewhat buried, but, I like it.

"Cold Water River" starts with a low rhythm intro and suddenly jumps a whole lot of decibels when the rest of the instruments kick in. This tune drives. It reminds me of a Hawaii 5-O sound track. You'll be tappign your toes to this number before long. You can't help yourself!

"Go Hobo" starts with the sound of the surf or a highway... I can't tell which. That's the fault of my portable CD player not the production. The vocals are right up front on this song. I know a guy who quit working his day job and started building surf boards. This song reminds me of that.

"Fifty Degrees In January" made me smile. Followed by "Blue Tiki" and its Jazzy little intro, I want to play a drum along with these two numbers. I like the instrumental accents. I like having the lyrics provided with the CD to follow along on this tune.

"Zombie Surf" has a lot of licks playing point and counter-point



with the rhythm. There is a lot going on instrumentally in this number.

"Tiki Grandioso" follows. It, too, is an instrumental number. I was caught by the drum beat right from the onset. This tune has a Tropicana vibe to it. The timing is really good. There are lots of different percussion beats going on simultaneously.

"Beach Floyd" wraps up this collection of tunes. Nicely by slowing things down and getting mellow. The vocals are filtered and sound somewhat like a vintage radio broadcast without the hiss.

I hear what sounds like ocean surf through a lot of this CD. There also seems to be a multi-chorus in several tracks and the last number has a phase shift in it. I don't know if that was intended. Based on the lyrics, I think the effect is intended.

Just like the last Cd I reviewed from Tiki Cowboys, I can see a lot went into this production. If you can check it out online, give a listen. There are a lot of toe-tappers in this disc. Some tunes, you'll want to play along.



Ukulele Club Listings...

If you would like to list your club here, submit contact information at this website:

http://www.tricornpublications.com/uke_player.htm
 or e-mail me at this address:
mickey@tricornpublications.com
 We will add you to our list.

USA

Arizona

Scottsdale Strummers, Scottsdale AZ, Contact Pat McInnis
 weekly daytime meeting, monthly evening meeting
 email: pat@azukulele.com
 website: azukulele.com

Tucson Ukesters

Tucson, AZ Meet weekly - usually on Monday afternoon
 Contact: Kristin Keller
twoazin@comcast.net

The Tucson Ukesters - performance group

Michael Crownhart - Group leader
 Contact: AzRedShoe@juno.com

Phoenix Ukulele Meetup

<http://www.meetup.com/The-Phoenix-Ukulele-Meetup-Group/>
 4th Thursday at Dolce Video Coffee Bar
 1025 E Camelback Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85014
 Contact: Carolyn Sechler carolyn@azcpa.com

Phoenix Ukulele Meetup

Meeting weekly on Tuesday Nights at Cabin Coffee
 Web site: <http://www.meetup.com/The-Phoenix-Ukulele-Meetup-Group/>
 Email: Tom@Kanikapila.us

Tucson Ukulele Meetup

First Friday and third Sunday each month,
 weekly gatherings of smaller practice groups.
<http://www.meetup.com/Tucson-Ukulele-Meetup/>



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<http://www.serif.com/>

Ukulele Clubs continued

California

Fresno Area

www.valleyukes.blogspot.com

Nuked Ukes

We are in Auburn California. Welcoming players from all levels.

contact: Loyce Smallwood

loy@foothill.net

www.kahi.com/loyce'sblog

Ukulele Society of America

Contact: Richard Douglas

(760) 458-6656

300 Carlsbad Village Dr.

Carlsbad CA, 92008

http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/ukulele_society_of_america

Ukulele Club of Santa Cruz

www.ukuleleclub.com

One of the Largest Ukulele clubs in America! Usually meets every third thursday at Bocci's celler in Santa Cruz, but check the website, cause it sometimes changes. Or email Andy@cruzio.com for club information.

Ukulele University

New uke club in the Sacramento, CA. Area. Meet 1st Thursday eve monthly

email: stuherreid@yahoo.com

website: www.ukeuniversity.com

San Jose Ukulele Club

Every second and fourth Tuesday in the month.

Beginner session at 6:30 p.m. Regular meeting from 7 to 9 p.m

We meet at the Fresh Choice Restaurant in the Almaden Plaza, at the intersection of Almaden Expressway and Blossom Hill Road, just off Hwy 85.

e-mail: sanjoseukeclub@gmail.com

San Diego Ukulele Meetup Group

<http://www.meetup.com/San-Diego-Ukulele-Meetup-Group/>

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at Lion Coffee downtown @ 6:30pm.

"Ukulele Jam" hosted by Shirley Orlando.

Meets Thursday evenings at 6:30. All levels welcome. Music is contemporary, from tin pan alley to the beach boys, etc.

16852 Gothard St Huntington Beach CA 92647.

shirthings@aol.com or encantada@cox.net

Petalukes, Petaluma, CA

Meet every Thursday night, other times too. All levels welcome, music provided

Contact: petaluke@comcast.net

website: <http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/Petaluke/>

High Desert Ukulele Club, Antelope Valley, Ca

Ukulele Clubs continued

highdesertukuleleclub.com or email highdesertukuleleclub@gmail.com

Canogahana Players

every second and fourth Sunday, Noon to 2PM
Guitar Merchant 7503 Topanga Canyon Blvd, Canoga Park, CA

The Pluckin' Strummers - A Los Angeles Ukulele Club

<http://pluckinstrummers.wordpress.com/>

Meet: 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the month. 10:00–Noon (unless otherwise stated).
Christ Church Griffith Park, Atwater Village 3852 Edenhurst, Los Angeles, CA

Turlock Uke Jamz, Turlock, CA

We meet the second Saturday of each month.
Details at: www.turlockukejamz.org

Palm Desert Strummers (Palm Springs area, California) Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m.

Joslyn Senior Center, Palm Desert (non-seniors welcome!)

Contact: Wendy Alderson: UkuleleWahine@yahoo.com

Highland Pickers (Strummers, Players and Singers), meet Wednesday mornings
at 11am in the Highland Senior Center, Highland, CA.

Colorado

The **Denver Uke Community** has been bringing Ukemaniacs together since 2005, We meet each month on the third Saturday at Swallow Hill Music Association at 10:30am. All skill levels from beginner to "Wow that person ROCKS the Ukulele", we also play a wide range of music, from country, tin pan alley, Hawaiian.

<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/UkuleleCommunityDenver/>

fortUKE @ Everyday Joe's

144 South Mason, Fort Collins, Colorado

We meet the first Saturday of each month at Everyday Joe's Coffee House, 9:30 AM till about noon. Group strum, all abilities welcome.

Connecticut

The KookeeUkies Ukulele Club of Southern Connecticut

Visit our website on [meetup.com](http://www.meetup.com) for meetup dates and times.

<http://www.meetup.com/The-Ukulele-Club-of-Southern-Connecticut-The-KookeeUkies/>

Ukulele Club and The Four Strings Ukulele Band of Southern Connecticut,

<http://www.orgsites.com/ct/uke-club/index.html>

petejhnsn@sbcglobal.net

Florida

Tampa Bay Ukulele Society

www.meetup.com/tampabayukes

Check out the website for scheduled "meetups". This groups is very active.

Ukulele Clubs continued

Florida Ukulele Network

www.FloridaUkuleleNetwork.org

F.U.N. has meet-up groups in Broward, Palm Beach, and the Space Coast

Georgia

Da Kine Ukers, we meet every Thursday nights from 6:30 - 8:30

pm. Location: American Legion Post 251, 2760 Duluth Hwy. (120), Duluth, GA.

Contact: Wally Choi, 517 Paden Drive, Lawrenceville, GA 30044

Email: wchoialoha@msn.com Website: <http://www.dakineukers.com>

Hawaii

UkuleleClubofKona.com

meets Wednesday evenings from 6 to 8 pm

Keauhou Shopping Center, 7 miles south of Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i

Illinois

CHUG - CHicago Ukulele Group

We have our monthly Chicago Uke Jam the 3rd Saturday of every month.

Please contact Henry at Henriness@gmail.com

Oak Park Ukulele Meetup Group aka The Harrison Street Ukulele Players.

Every 3rd Thursday, 6pm-8pm @ Wonderwall Music Shoppe & Emporium

325 Harrison St, Oak Park IL 60304

All other Thursdays, 7pm-9pm @ Eastgate Cafe, 102 Harrison Street Oak Park

Website: www.ukulele.meetup.com/89 contact: hsup2008@gmail.com

Northwest suburbs of Illinois (Carpentersville).

Our contact email is nwiukes@gmail.com

Kansas

Kansas City Ukesters

<http://www.kcuke.com>

Kentucky

Kentucky Ukes

meeting the fourth Sunday of every month

KentuckianaUkes@yahoo.com

Maine

Ukulele Club of Brunswick (strummin' away in Midcoast Maine)

Usually meeting the first and third Thursday of the month; all welcome.

<http://ukesofbrunswick.weebly.com/index.html>

Michigan

Ukulele Clubs continued

Ukulele Jam, 4th Tuesday night of the Month Oz's

Music Ann Arbor MI. contact: jerryefmally@yahoo.com

Lansing Area Ukulele Group

Meets once per month: Sir Pizza 201 East Grand River Lansing, MI 48906

Yahoo Group: <http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/lansingukesgroup>

Facebook: tinyurl.com/lansingukes

Email (Ben Hassenger): lansingukes@gmail.com

Club: Motor City Ukes

second Tuesday of the month in Farmington, MI. Details on www.meetup.com

Minnesota

Two Harbors Ukulele Group (THUG), Two Harbors MN.

Email: al@agatebaymusic.com

StrumMn ukulele players

<http://strummn.shutterfly.com/>

Nebraska Ukulele Strummers

4stringsofswing@gmail.com

Nevada

The Ukulele Club of Las Vegas

www.meetup.com/ukulele-club-of-las-vegas

"Uke Nights in Reno"

Email: Rich@PlayUke.net

Local Uke gathering in Reno, NV

New Mexico

The High Desert Sand Fleas

Meet the 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at the

Albuquerque Press Club [6pm - 9pm]

2101 Highland Park Circle, Albuquerque, New Mexico - USA

contact: Stephen Hunt via email: hdsfgcea@gmail.com.

<http://sites.google.com/site/hdsfgcea/>

New York

Ukulele Club of Potsdam (New York)

meet-up every other Friday at 5PM at Tim's Comic & Game, 6 Main Street

contact: Tim Connolly tim@discoverpotsdam.com call: (315) 268-1598.

Loaner ukes available. Bring your uke and leave your cares at home!

The Lower Westchester Ukulele Club, Westchester County, New York

<http://lowerwestchesterukuleleclub.webstarts.com/>

E-mail: lowerwestchesterukuleleclub@hotmail.com

Long Island Ukulele Strummers Club

Ukulele Clubs continued

Plainview, New York

Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/islandukeclub>

North Carolina

Charlotte Area Ukulele Jam

contact: ukulelerobby@gmail.com

First Saturday of each month. 3 - 5 PM At "Aloha Snow"

www.alohasnow.com

Ohio

COUP (Central Ohio Ukulele Peeps)

<http://www.meetup.com/BuckeyeUkuleleSociety/>

Jumping Flea Night Monthly uke strum-along

Cleveland Heights, Ohio. LAST Tuesdays 7:30 - 8:30 at Coventry Village Library.

Free & open to everyone!! Contact: melissaogrady@ymail.com

Oklahoma

Tulsa Ukulele Club

Meeting the needs of ukulele players in the greater Tulsa area

tulsaukes.blogspot.com

contact via e-mail: rskjrmall@gmail.com

Oregon

Portland Ukulele Association

<http://www.pdxuke.org>

pua@teleport.com

Making music together since 2001!

Pennsylvania

Allegheny Ukulele Kollektive (Look for us on Facebook!) New uke group taking shape. Hoping for twice monthly jams and sing-alongs for all levels.

Hollidaysburg/Altoona, Pennsylvania, Contact: Steve kss15@psu.edu

Scranton Ukulele Network

Meets 1st Fridays 6PM-Group Strum & Open Mic

Scranton Music Works/Gallucci Music School 207 N Washington Ave, Scranton

Steel City Ukuleles, Regent Square

www.steelcityukuleles.com

Central PA Ukulele Club

First Thursday of each month, 6:30pm-8:30pm in Hummelstown, PA

Meets at the Grace United Methodist Church.

Contact: jeff_lup@comcast.net

South Carolina

Ukulele Clubs continued

Lowcountry Strummers Ukulele Club

Charleston, SC metro area.

We meet second Thursday of the month. All are Welcome.

www.lowcountrystrummers.com e-mail lowcountrystrummers@gmail.com

Greater Charlotte Ukulele Group

<http://www.meetup.com/charlotteuke/>

Texas

Robert S. Sparkman

sparky.judy@tx.rr.com

Lone Star Ukulele Club (in North Dallas)

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lonestarukuleles>

The Dallas Ukulele Headquarters

Go to www.meetup.com and search The

Dallas Ukulele Headquarters to join the group. Lots of fun events and jams!

CHUG - Coffee House Ukulele Gang

Fort Worth, Texas

This wild west ukulele gang meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month.

Contact Steve for more info. (steve_w_williams@yahoo.com)

Vermont

Vermont Ukulele Society

email: vyhnak@sover.net

Meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

Virginia

Virginia Ukulele Club - Vienna, Virginia

Meeting twice a month. All ages and levels of ability welcome.

Contact: Ben Farrington - ukeclub@yahoo.com

Hawai'i State Society

Falls Church, VA.

Contact: Carol Takafuji - itaka2u@yahoo.com

Washington

Seattle Ukulele Players Association (SUPA)

www.seattleukulele.org/

Cowlitz Ukulele Association

Longview, WA. 98626

CowUke@yahoo.com

Ukulele Clubs continued

Wisconsin

CheezLand Uke Band - JoeSexton@aol.com

Website: CheezLandUkeBand.com

Tuesday night at Leithold Music in downtown La Crosse, WI.

Beginners, Mid-Level, Advanced Players

Canada

STRING ALONG UKULELE CLUB

DUNDAS ONTARIO CANADA

www.stringalongukulele.ca

Nanaimo Ukulele Circle - Nanaimo, BC, Canada

www.ukecircle.com e-mail: ukecircle@gmail.com

UK

England

Ukulele Society of Great Britain

43 Finstock Road, London W10 6LU

Tel: 020 8960 0459

Email: m@gjcman.com

Cambridge Ukulele Co-operative [Cuckoo]

Meet alternate Sundays 2pm-6pm

The Portland Arms Cambridge CB4 3BAIf

If you're cuckoo about ukes come and join us.

<http://www.myspace.com/cambridgeukuleleclub>

Ukulele Philharmonic Orchestra of Sudbury

Tuesdays evenings from 7.00pm

The Institute, Station Road, Sudbury Suffolk CO10 2SP

Beginners Welcome

Uke Wednesday Jam

Every Wednesday 7 till closing Downstairs @ The Royal George

Charing Cross Road, London, WC2H 0EA, U.K.

contact: Quinc email: qnc@qnctv.com

<http://ukeweds.intodit.com>

Tune Army Ukulele Club

The Bay Horse, Front Street, Wickham, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE16 4EF

Meeting first Monday of the month 7:30 - 9:30

<http://tunearmy.blogspot.com/>

UkeGlos Ukulele Club

Meets Every Mondays every month, 8.00pm

The Exmouth Arms, Bath Rd

Cheltenham, GL53 7LX

Ukulele Clubs continued

Wooden & banjo ukes welcome. All levels of playing ability & song styles. For full details visit: www.ukeglos.co.uk
<http://www.ukeglos.co.uk>

Ukulele Sundays host: Tim Smithies

email: tim@timsmithies.com

I host a Ukulele Jam session on Sunday evenings in Sheffield UK called 'Ukulele Sundays'. All welcome - 8.30pm onwards. Riverside Cafe Bar.
<http://www.ukulelesundays.co.uk>.

"Brighton ukulele Sundays"

Meet first Sunday of the month at the Brunswick Pub in Hove East Sussex UK. Visit Facebook Brighton Ukulele Sundays for more details.

Leicester Ukulele Club

All welcome, First Monday of the month,
Upstairs at Babalas Bar, Queens Road, Leicester
Contact: dave.davies1@virgin.net or mark@littleredtruck.co.uk

Herts of Uke Ukulele Club

Every 4th Sunday - 6.30pm onwards.
Meet at The Doctors Tonic, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL8 6PR

All Players Welcome

Websites: <http://sites.google.com/site/hertsouke/>
email: hertsouke@gmail.com

Luton, UK

We meet once a fortnight at Greenbank Music Village,
Greenbank Hal, Cobden Street, Luton, LU2 0NG
Anyone interested can give us a call:

Keith 07745 613931

Scott 07976 895067

Gerry 07785 117029

<http://sites.google.com/site/ukuleleworkshopinluton/>

South Hampton Uke Jam - meets every two weeks... year 'round
www.southamptonukulelejamb.co.uk

Stockton to Darlington Ukulele Express

meets 2nd and last thursday of the month. contact simonb250@hotmail.com
ukuleleexpress.blogspot.com

Sedgley Strummers - See the website for details

www.ukulelemad.com

'Colwyn Bay Ukulele Group

We usually on Saturday morning. All players welcome.
email sbach1@live.co.uk

Ukulele Clubs continued

People of Lewisham's Ukulele Club (PLUC)

Friendly, inclusive community uke group welcomes all levels of players: beginners, improvers & advanced. Meets every Tuesday eve 8pm - 10pm
The Lewis Club, Lewisham Hospital, Lewisham High St, SE13 6LH.
<http://lewishamukulele.wordpress.com> Simon at pluc09@googlemail.com

TimeBugs Banjo/Ukulele Group

meets fortnightly at The Derby Engineers Club,
Osmaston Road, Derby
DE23 8JX
All enquiries to: timebugs@gmail.com

The Derby Ukulele Club

Meets fortnightly at The Derby Engineers Club,
Osmaston Road, Derby
DE23 8JX
All enquiries to: derbyukes@gmail.com

Ireland

UKULELE IRELAND

ukulele@ireland.com

Irish ukulele club meets on the second saturday of each month. Players from all over Ireland. Ukeplayers of all levels welcome. If you are a visiting uke player please feel free to come along. The meetups are held at 2, eden park, Dunlaoire, Co. Dublin.

Ukuholics

truepants@eircom.net

The Ukuholics are based in the Irish Midlands and meet once a month. Players of any or no ability will fit in nicely!
Visit www.ukuholics.webs.com for more info

Scotland

Monday Ukearist

Edinburgh's very own ukulele gathering. We gather once a fortnight on Mondays from 7 to 10(pm!) at Mackenzie School of English near the foot of Leith Walk

6 John's Place,
EH6 7EP

Contact: John Hobson, +44 (0)7940 513969, jhobson@gmail.com
<http://ukearist.co.uk>

North Wales

Colwyn Bay Ukulele Group

Saturday morning between 10am and noon at various locations
Colwyn Bay North Wales
colwynbug@gmail.com

Ukulele Clubs continued

South Wales

Ukulele Nights

Cardiff's Ukulele Jam Session and Cabaret

Meet Mondays 8 p.m. at assorted venues.

Visit www.ukenights.org.uk for full listings and updates.

Contact: Nick Canham witt29-ukenights1@yahoo.co.uk 07971 - 719626

The Swansea Ukulele Club

Meeting Tuesday evenings from the 7th February 2012

email: r.gent@ntlworld.com

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/SwanseaUkuleleClub/>

Porthcawl Ukulele Band. Meets 8pm on Wednesdays at the Seahorse pub, South Road, Porthcawl. www.porthcawlukuleleband.org.uk

France

L'UkeDunum - Ukulele Club of Lyon

Website: <http://lukedunum.wordpress.com>

email=lukedunum@gmail.com

Germany

Ukulele Club of Germany

info@ukulelenclub.de

www.ukulelenclub.de (home page)

www.ukulelenboard.de (message board)

Deutscher Ukulelenclub

c/o Raimund Sper

Korneliusstrasse 1

D-47441 Moers

tel. +49/2841-394837

fax + 49/2841-394836

www.ukulelenclub.de

Holland

Ukulele Jamboree in Rotterdam - hosted by 'The Uke Box'

The night is comprised of a workshop, performances & open mic.

To Join the Mailing List send an e-mail to: guaranteed2swoon@gmail.com

To read more about this and our other ukulele projects go to:

<http://www.ukulele-interventie.blogspot.com> (Dutch)

Visit my personal blog spot and click on 'Ukulele' under "Contents" (English)

<http://www.shelleyrickey.blogspot.com>

'Uke & D'Uke'

<http://ukeandduke.blogspot.com/> (in Dutch)

Ukulele Clubs continued

Note: Shelley has an Etsy store where you can find ukulele related items for sale, check it out: <http://www.thejumpingfleamarket.etsy.com>

France

Ukulele Club of Paris

Thursday starting 7:30 PM

Meetings are announced on the website King David Ukulele Station at this URL:

<http://www.ukulele.fr>

C.O.U.L.E.

Club Olympique de Ukulélé de Lille et des Environs

<http://www.COULE.fr>

"Stay cool, come and play with the C.O.U.L.E."

VSalele

Association des Ukuleliste de Valbonne Sophia Antipolis (Alpes Maritimes)

Visit www.vsalele.org for more info

"Ukulele Social Club de Picardie"

Amiens (France)

See more here : <http://www.ukulpic.fr/>

Clermont-Ferrand call "Le BOUC" (in french, Bougnat Original Ukulele Club).

Our website is : <http://le-bouc.blogspot.com/>

Spain

Club del Ukelele de Madrid (SPAIN)

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=131466486122>

"Para todos los aficionados al ukelele que viven en Madrid"

"For all the ukelele fans living at Madrid"

Now preparing their first festival and meeting very soon -stay tuned!

Australia

Sunnybank Ukulele Players

Meets every 3rd wed of each month sunnybank, Brisbane , Australia

Contact for more information- info@trevorgollagher.com

Thailand

Ukulele Lovers Club, Bangkok Thailand

www.facebook.com/ukuleleloversclub

Meeting once a month - open to the public.



Stay tuned for updates and events...



Essential Links from the World-Wide-Web

Brudda Bu's Ukulele Heaven

<http://www.geocities.com/~ukulele/index.html>

If you'd like to learn the history of some of ukulele's greatest players, this site is absolutely essential.

Ukulelia - <http://www.ukulelia.com/>

The World's Greatest Ukulele WebLog" Need I say more?

Ukulele Cosmos - <http://www.ukulelecosmos.com>

One of the hottest ukulele forums on the web. Don't Miss It!

Ukulele Underground

<http://www.ukuleleunderground.com/forum/index.php>

Another really popular ukulele forum, lots of Hawaiian players and folks from the West Coast of the Mainland USA.

Flea Market Music - <http://www.fleamarketmusic.com/default.asp>

This is Jumpin' Jim Beloff's website. He has lots of great resources and an excellent forum as well. You can buy Flukes and Fleas there, too. Jim also has lots of songbooks, DVDs, and other great stuff there.

UkeLadyMusic - <http://www.ukeladymusic.com/>

Auntie Noel runs a really great shop. Her passion is ukulele and it shows.

Contact Us: phone 214-924-0408

or email noel.tardy@yahoo.com

Kiwi Ukulele

New Zealand's Ukulele Companion

<http://www.kiwiukulele.co.nz/>

Bounty Music

<http://www.ukes.com/>

Bounty Music Maui

111 Hana Hwy. #105

Kahului, Maui, HI 96732

open 9 :00 to 6:00 Monday thru Saturday * Sunday 10:00 to 4:00

Phone: (808) 871-1141

Fax: (808) 871-1138

Mobius Strap

www.mobiusstrap.com

Online Resources

<http://www.tikiking.com>

tikiking@tikiking.com

comment=Website listing:

Home of Tiki King Ukuleles since 1999. lots of neat Ukulele stuff, such as the webs largest Ukulele makers database, Custom Hand Built Tiki King Ukuleles, and ukulele stuff to see and buy. We have Flukes and Fleas, Ukulele Art Gallery, Ukulele classes, chord charts, CD's and more!

Bonsai Garden Orchestra

email: info@bgo.nu

Webside: <http://www.bgo.nu>

MySpace: <http://www.myspace.com/bonsaigardenorchestra>

World Music Festival "glattundverkehrt" on july 22nd .

www.glattundverkehrt.at

UkePics

Assorted Ukulele Picture Exposé

<http://www.ukepics.com/>

How High The Moon Publishing

Publisher of the Jam Book "Play Well with Other"

9826 James A. Reed Rd. Kansas City, MO 64134

816-965-0183 or 816-728-6936

<http://www.moonbookstore.com>

GoChords

<http://www.gochords.com>

"GoChords™ is an easy-to-use writing and playing tool with moveable chord tablature!"

Live 'Ukulele

Tabs, lessons, and info for 'ukulele enthusiasts

<http://liveukulele.com/>

<http://www.gotaukulele.com>

<http://ukulele-perspective.com>

<http://ukeofcarl.com/> - lots of free tabs and video.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/418162731550808/>
(Keep Ukulele Playing Live"